## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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CONFIDENTIAL TOKYO 3018

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: ENRG, JA

SUBJECT: SUGGESTED BRIEFING ON U.S. ENERGY POLICY

1. IT OCCURS TO US IN TOKYO THAT IT WOULD BE VERY USEFUL TO TOP JAPANESE POLICY MAKERS TO RECEIVE AN ADVANCE BRIEFING ON OUR NEW ENERGY POLICY, WHICH THE PRESIDENT HAS SAID HE HOPES TO ANNOUNCE APRIL 20, IDEALLY, SUCH A BRIEFING MIGHT TAKE THE FORM OF A SEMINAR FOR TWO OR THREE DAYS IN WHICH THE KEY U.S. ENERGY OFFICIALS, INCLUDING DR. SCHLESINGER, COULD DISCUSS WITH JAPANESE EXPERTS THE VARIOUS ELEMENTS OF OUR NEW POLICY, PERHAPS ABOUT A WEEK BEFORE ITS PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT. SUCH A BREIFING WOULD PRESUMABLY BE USEFUL TO OTHER KEY CAPITALS AS WELL, AND MIGHT BE CONDUCTED UNDER THE RUBRIC OF IEA, BUT WE FEEL THAT ITS IMPACT WOULD BE GREATER IF IT WERE HELD IN WASHINGTON, RATHER THAN AT THE USUAL IEA CONFERENCE SITE IN PARIS, AND IF OFFICIALS OF HIGHER RANK THAN USUAL IEA DELEGATIONS WERE INVITED TO ATTEND. EN-HANCING THE VALUE OF SUCH A BRIEFING WOULD BE THE AVAILABILITY PRIOR TO THE BRIEFING, IF POSSIBLE, OF WRITTEN FORMULATIONS OF OUR NEW POLICY SO THAT THE PARTICIPANTS WOULD BE BETTER PREPARED TO ENGAGE IN DISCUSSION. WE WOULD ASSUME THAT SUCH A BRIEFING WOULD INCLUDE STATUS OF ENERGY REORGANIZATION PROPOSALS. CONFIDENTIAL

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2. AN ADVANCE BRIEFING OF THE KIND SUGGESTED IN THE PRECEDING PARAGRAPH WOULD NOT ONLY BE CONSISTENT WITH OUR EFFORTS TO COOPERATE WITH JAPAN AND OTHERS WHOSE IMPACT ON THE WORLDWIDE ENERGY SITUATION IS SO GREAT, BUT WOULD ALSO ACCORD WITH THE SPIRIT OF CLOSE CONSULTATION WITH OUR MAJOR ALLIES ENUNCIATED BY THE

PRESIDENT, AND EXEMPLIFIED IN THE VISIT HERE BY THE VICE PRESIDENT, AND BY PRIME MINISTER FUKUDA TO WASHINGTON A FEW WEEKS HENCE. INDEED, THE INVITATION FOR SUCH A BRIEFING COULD BE EXTENDED TO THE PRIME MINISTER DURING HIS VISIT.

3. WITH REGARD TO NUCLEAR ENERGY ASPECTS OF OUR OVERALL POLICY, PRESS REPORTS HERE AND JAPANESE VISITORS RETURNING FROM WASHINGTON RECENTLY INDICATE POSSIBILITY THAT PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT COULD PRECEDE ANNOUNCEMENT OF OVERALL POLICY. IF SO, WE BELIEVE THAT ADVANCE BRIEFING SIMILAR TO THAT SUGGESTED IN PARAGRAPH ONE WOULD BE EQUALLY APPROPRIATE.

4. WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S COMMENTS. SHOESMITH

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